

Inasmuch as We do repose Special Trust and Confi-  
-dence in your Integrity, fidelity Skill & Cunning in  
- Clerkship We have thought fitt and do by these presents  
- give and grant unto you the said John Beard the  
- Office of Clerk to our Governour & Council of Mary-  
-land hereby appointing, authorizing and Impower-  
-ing you to have hold exercise & enjoy the said  
- Office And to take receive to your own proper use &  
- behoof, as well the Salary usually allowed as also all  
- and singular other the rights profits benefitts and  
- Advantages thereto belonging or in any way appertain-  
-ing in as ample manner as any of the Clerks to our  
- said Governour and Council of Maryland have used  
- To have hold exercise receive and enjoy the same  
- for and during our good will & pleasure Witness  
- Our Trusty and wellbelov'd John Hart Esq. Our  
- Capt. Generall and Governour in Chief of our said  
- Province and Territory of Maryland this 12<sup>th</sup> day  
- of October in the first year of our Dominion &c  
- Annoq. Dni 1716

 The Great Seal of the Province of Maryland, featuring a central emblem surrounded by the text "The Great Seal of the Province of Maryland".  
J. Hart

Thereupon the said John Beard takes the Several Oaths  
- Appointed to be taken by the Act of Assembly of this  
- Province, And also an Oath for his due Execution  
- of the sd Office